

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

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TAGS: UNIDO AORG AFIN EAID OCON

SUBJECT: UNIDO - PREPARATIONS FOR SECOND PART
OF PC-V

REF: VIENNA 0096

1. IN ADDITION TO ISSUES DISCUSSED REFTEL, OTHER
QUESTIONS RELATED TO INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS LIKELY
BE INTRODUCED BY LDC'S AT PC-V AND UNIDO-II INCLUDE
EXPANSION OF IDB; INCREASE IN PROPORTION OF LDC'S
REPRESENTED ON IDB; AND PERIODICITY OF UNIDO GENERAL
CONFERENCES. WE ALSO EXPECT LDC'S WILL SEEK MAKE
RECRUITMENT OF PROJECT PERSONNEL (FIELD EXPERTS)
SUBJECT TO GEOGRAPHIC REPRESENTATION AND FEW GROUP B
DELEGATIONS MAY JOIN NUMBER OF LDC'S IN SEEKING SEPARATE
GEOGRAPHIC REPRESENTATION OF UNIDO SECRETARIAT
FROM UN. LDC'S ALSO LIKELY AT SOME POINT MAKE EFFORT
HAVE DESIGN, APPROVAL AND EXECUTION OF SIS PLACED
UNDER EXCLUSIVE UNIDO AUTHORITY, WITH UNDP SOLELY
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PROVIDING ANNUAL GRANT OF FUNDS. PERPETUAL ISSUE

OF EXPANSION OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT FIELD ADVISER PROGRAM, FUNDED AT LEAST IN PART BY UNIDO'S REGULAR BUDGET AND SUBJECT TO GEOGRAPHIC REPRESENTATION ALSO APT TO SURFACE.

2. EXPANSION OF IDB. SEVERAL LDC'S DELS HAVE ALREADY INDICATED INTENTION PROPOSE EXPANSION OF IDB TO UNSPECIFIED NUMBER. WE SUSPECT OBJECTIVE IS TO REACH LEVEL COMPARABLE WITH ECOSOC/TDB. GROUP D POSITION ON EXPANSION NOT KNOWN, BUT THEY MAY WELCOME OPPORTUNITY INCREASE THEIR REPRESENTATION BEYOND PRESENT FIVE MEMBERS. WHILE HISTORY THROUGHOUT UN GIVES LITTLE REASON FOR OPTIMISM THAT EXPANSION CAN BE RESISTED, MISSION WOULD FAVOR AT LEAST MAKING VIGOROUS ARGUMENT THAT TREND TOWARD INCREASINGLY UNWIELDY GOVERNING BODIES, WITH CONCOMITANT INCREASED BURDEN ON CONFERENCE SERVICES, SHOULD BE ARRESTED.

3. INCREASE IN PROPORTION OF LDC REPRESENTATION IN IDB. SEVERAL LDC DELEGATIONS HAVE ALSO INDICATED INTENTION PRESS FOR GREATER PROPORTION OF LDC REPRESENTATION IN UNIDO GOVERNING BODIES. (PRESENT RATIO IN 45-MEMBER IDB/PC IS 5 LDC'S , 3 MARKET-ECONOMY COUNTRIES, AND 1 SOCIALIST.) THIS PROBABLY WOULD SURFACE IN CONJUNCTION WITH PROPOSAL ANTICIPATED IN PRECEDING PARA, AND APPEARS TO US TO RAISE MORE DIFFICULT QUESTION THAN MERE NUMERICAL EXPANSION. AMONG CONSIDERATIONS VARIOUSLY MOTIVATING THIS PROBABLE LDC PROPOSAL (AND VARIANT DISCUSSED PARA 2 ABOVE) ARE DESIRE PERMIT MORE GOVERNMENTS PARTICIPATE, ASSERT GREATER LDC PRESENCE, AND TO ARRIVE AT FORMULA THAT ALLOWS AFRICA, ASIA AND LATIN AMERICA EQUAL NUMERICAL REPRESENTATION. (FURTHER COMPLICATING FACTOR IS POSSIBILITY SOCIALIST COUNTRIES MIGHT LATCH ONTO G-77 PROPOSAL TO SEEK INCREASE IN THEIR PROPORTION OF REPRESENTATION.)

A. IN DEPT'S PREPARATION FOR ADDRESSING SUCH PROPOSAL, WOULD SEEM USEFUL TO RESEARCH SIZE AND DISTRIBUTION OF OTHER SIGNIFICANT UN GOVERNING BODIES.

B. ARGUMENT CAN BE MADE THAT G-77 ALREADY HAVE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ABSOLUTE MAJORITY AND INSISTENCE ON STILL GREATER REPRESENTATION WOULD ONLY BE CASE OF "OVERKILL." TO THIS G-77 APT RESPOND THAT PRESENT RATIO DOES NOT REFLECT ACTUAL GLOBAL NUMERICAL DISTRIBUTION OF UN MEMBERSHIP. SUCH RIPOSTE COULD LOGICALLY BE PARRIED BY CONTENTIOUS ASSERTION THAT CONSIDERATIONS OTHER THAN SHEER NUMBERS MUST BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT. THUS, WE CONCLUDE THAT OPPOSING THIS PROPOSAL ON "RATIONAL"

BASIS WOULD REQUIRE US TO MAKE PUBLIC CASE THAT MEMBERSHIP OF GOVERNING BODY SHOULD TAKE INTO ACCOUNT ACTUAL INDUSTRIAL MIGHT AND BUDGETARY CONTRIBUTIONS OF GROUP B COUNTRIES.

C. IN ABSENCE OF IDENTIFIABLE, VIABLE SANCTIONS WITH WHICH TO OPPOSE THIS PROPOSAL, POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVE MIGHT BE INITIALLY TO OPPOSE ANY CHANGE IN SIZE OR GEOGRAPHIC PROPORTION ON SIMPLE GROUNDS THAT IDB ALREADY TOO LARGE AND VARIOUS GROUPS PRESENTLY REASONABLY WELL REPRESENTED IN HARD-ARRIVED AT FORMULATION THAT GIVES LDC'S COMFORTABLE MAJORITY. FALLBACK, IF REQUIRED, MIGHT BE ENLARGEMENT OF IDB TO 54, WHICH PRESERVES PRESENT RATIO AND WOULD MAKE MORE SEATS AVAILABLE TO EACH GROUP, OR TO ALLOW LDC'S MINIMUM NUMBER ADDITIONAL SEATS REQUIRED TO ALLOW EQUAL REPRESENTATION OF EACH OF THREE MAIN G-77 GROUPS, IF THIS IS THEIR PRIMARY OBJECTIVE.

D. YET ANOTHER ALTERNATIVE COULD BE SEEK TRADE AGREEMENT ON CHANGE IN IDB REPRESENTATION AGAINST ESTABLISHMENT OF PERIODIC GENERAL CONFERENCES (OR VICE VERSA).

4. WE ANTICIPATE EFFORT TO PROVIDE FOR PERIODIC UNIDO GENERAL CONFERENCES, WHICH LDC'S WANT PRIMARILY TO KEEP PRESSURE FOR BUDGETARY AND PROGRAM CONCESSIONS FROM INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES BUT ALSO TO PERMIT ALL UN MEMBERS AND ASSOCIATED STATES TO PARTICIPATE PERIODICALLY IN UNIDO OVERVIEW. WHILE WE AGREE FULLY WITH TRADITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS THAT HAVE LED US TO OPPOSE PERIODICITY OF GENERAL CONFERENCES, WE FRANKLY PESSIMISTIC ABOUT SUCCESS OF HEADING OFF SUCH RESOLUTION AT UNIDO-II, PARTICULARLY IN LIGHT OF PROVISION FOR SUCH CONFERENCES FOR OTHER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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UN AGENCIES; BEST HOPE MAY BE TO FIGHT WITH OBJECTIVE OF STRETCHING PERIOD AS LONG AS POSSIBLE, E.G., FOUR YEARS. OTHER (DUBIOUS) PLOY MIGHT BE TO TRADE PERIODICITY OFF AGAINST IDB ENLARGEMENT OR REARRANGEMENT. (WE SHOULD ALSO ANTICIPATE TACTICAL EFFORT BY LDC'S TO TRADE SA STATUS OFF IN FAVOR OF PERIODIC GENERAL CONFERENCES, OR TO INSIST ON SUCH PERIODIC CONFERENCES IN LIEU OF SA STATUS.)

5. GEOGRAPHIC REPRESENTATION. WE HAVE NOTHING NEW TO ADD TO EARLIER DISCUSSIONS OF PROS AND CONS OF SEPARATE GEOGRAPHIC REPRESENTATION FOR UNIDO SECRETARIAT STAFF. RE APPLYING THIS PRINCIPLE TO PROJECT PERSONNEL, WE WONDER IF TIME MAY NOT HAVE COME TO FOREGO IDEALISTIC POSTURE IN SUPPORT OF

SELECTION SOLELY ON BASIS OF TECHNICAL QUALIFICATIONS,
WHICH HAS NOT ACCRUED TO US FAVOR, AND CONSIDER
ADVANTAGES OF SUPPORTING SOME NEW FORMULA WHICH
TAKES BOTH QUALIFICATIONS AND GEOGRAPHIC
REPRESENTATION INTO ACCOUNT.

6. SPECIAL INDUSTRIAL SERVICES. DEPARTMENT AND
USUN MAY WISH REVIEW WHETHER FURTHER EASING OF UNDP
AUTHORITY OVER SIS DESIRABLE. WE ASSUME THIS WILL
BE PRESSED BY LDC'S (AND SECRETARIAT) BUT HAVE NO
NEW THOUGHTS. STIBRAVY

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